

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph on pg. 12 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The access point 12 includes apparatus 38 of an embodiment of the present invention by which to utilize both diversity and spatial multiplexing techniques to increase the likelihood that the communication data communicated by way of the radio air interface shall be delivered to the mobile node in a form to permit the recover of the informational content of the communication data. And, the mobile node includes further apparatus 38 of an embodiment of the present invention that estimates values of the communication data while requiring only reduced levels of computation, permitting operation in real-time even when data is communicated at high data rates. The apparatus 38 includes a first mapper/modulator 42 and at least a second mapper/modulator 44. A first encoder 4246 is associated with the mapper/modulator 4642, and a second encoder 48 is associated with the second mapper/modulator 44.

Please replace the second paragraph on pg. 12 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Communication data that is to be communicated by the access point is formed on the line 52, provided thereon, e.g., by the correspondent node 24. Portions of the communication data are provided to the first and second encoders 4642 and 48, respectively. The portions of the communication data provided to the separate ones of the encoders are dissimilar portions of the communication data or are of overlapping portions of the communication data. The encoders encode the portions of the communication data provided thereto to form encoded representations of the communication data.

Please replace the third paragraph on pg. 12 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The encoded representations of the communication data are provided to the mapper/modulator associated with the respective encoders. The mapper/modulator 4246 operates pursuant to a first mapping scheme to map values provided thereto into first mapped

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values. And, the second mapper/modulator 44 analogously operates to map the representations of the communication data applied thereto according to a second mapping scheme. The properties of the mapping scheme pursuant to which the mappers/modulators 42 and 44 are operable pursuant to differing schemes that exhibit differing properties.